

COMVAX™

Vaccine	Vaccine Components	Ages licensed for use	Minimum Age
Comvax™ (<i>Haemophilus Influenzae</i> Type b and Hepatitis B Vaccine) (Merck)	7.5 mcg of PRP-OMP Hib vaccine (PedvaxHIB®) 5 mcg of hepatitis B surface antigen (Recombivax HB®)	2, 4, and 12-15 months	6 weeks



Comvax™ Vaccine Recommendations

- Comvax is licensed for use at 2, 4, and 12-15 months of age.
- The spacing and timing of Comvax are the same as those for the individual antigens. The third dose must be given at 12 months of age or older and at least 2 months after the second dose.
- It may be used whenever either antigen is indicated and if the other antigen is not contraindicated.
- The vaccine should not be administered to infants younger than 6 weeks of age because of suppression of the immune response to the Hib component (see *Haemophilus influenzae* type b factsheet for more details).
- Comvax must not be used for doses at birth or 1 month of age for a child on a 0, 1, 6-month hepatitis B vaccine schedule.
- Although not labeled for this indication by FDA, ACIP recommends that Comvax may be used in infants whose mothers are HBsAg positive or whose HBsAg status is unknown.
- The interval between doses should be at least 2 months and the full series completed by 12-15 months of age or as soon as possible thereafter.
- Three doses of hepatitis B vaccine are required regardless of the child's age when the series was started. Therefore, complete the hepatitis B series with a single antigen hepatitis B vaccine or an appropriate combination hepatitis B vaccine.
- The number of doses of PRP-OMPC (i.e. COMVAX or PedvaxHIB) needed to vaccinate against Hib disease varies with age of the infant or child at the first dose:

Age at first dose	Number of doses needed
12-14 months	2
15-59 months	1

Contraindications

- Persons known to have experienced a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to a vaccine component or following a prior dose of Hib vaccine.
- Delay vaccination for children with moderate or severe acute illnesses.
- Severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to latex – the stopper of the diluent vial contains dry natural latex rubber.

Precautions

- Use caution when vaccinating latex-sensitive individuals since the vial stopper contains dry natural latex rubber that may cause allergic reactions.

Adverse Reactions

- **Injection site:** pain, redness, swelling.
- **Systemic:** fatigue, headache, myalgia (muscle pain), gastrointestinal symptoms, arthralgia (joint pain).